

Becoming a Cisco Networking Academy

Welcome to the Cisco Networking Academy Program!

Cisco Systems, the worldwide leader in networking for the Internet, has a vision that will transform the ways in which people work, live, and learn. This vision is realized through the Cisco Networking Academy program and, as an Academy, your organization will be a key part of that vision. The Networking Academy program enables people with e-learning environments to learn anytime, anywhere, at their own pace, and with more accountability than traditional classroom settings.

Are you a potential Local Academy or Regional Academy?

Local Academies prepares students for industry-standard certification exams such as the Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA), Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP), and NetPlus+. They work directly with a Regional Academy in their area.

Regional Academy sites are chosen by a Cisco Area Academy Manager based on regional needs. They are responsible for training and supporting 10 Local Academies. To be considered as a potential Regional Academy site, organizations should complete the online lead form and indicate their level of interest.

Step 1: Let us know about your interest in the Academy Program

There are two ways to contact Cisco about your interest in the program:

- Contact the Regional Academy in your area and request information about becoming a Local Academy. Use the Academy Locator.
- Complete the Application Form

Step 2: We will contact you for more information

The coordinator from the Regional Academy will contact you to describe the services, support, and commitment needed to become a Local Academy. All Regional Academies offer the same training, curriculum, and Academy support. Additional requirements and services may vary between sites.

The Getting Started Form is forwarded to the appropriate Regional Academy or local Cisco representative. You will receive a call back within one week for an informational interview. We will determine your ability to offer the program, your level of interest, and answer any of your questions.

Academies must have in place or plan to setup:

- A dedicated classroom
- At least a 3:1 student per computer ratio (1:1 is preferred)
- A sufficient Internet connection to support all computers
- An instructor available for training
- Budget or grant funds to purchase the Academy Lab bundle
- Server to download and offer curriculum

Step 3: Determine training, technology, and lab setup needs

Potential Local Academies and their Regional Academy will discuss training schedules, cost recovery charges, and support services to work out an acceptable arrangement for services. The Regional Academy will put the Local Academy in touch with a Cisco education sales representative to determine technology needs and place an order for the lab equipment bundle.

Step 4: Register online and schedule training

When the Regional Academy has approved a new Local Academy, they send an email to the Local Academy main contact with information for logging on to the Community Server. The main contact registers themselves and their organization online and schedules training.

Step 5: Become certified instructors

Instructors must complete training and become certified to be qualified to teach in the Academy program. They must pass the on-line final exam with a score of 80 percent or better, and pass a hands-on exam at the end of each semester after semester one training.

Step 6: Launch your program!

During training, instructors learn how to set up the lab for training and have all the materials they need to launch a successful Cisco Networking Academy.

Eligible organizations

The Academy program is for schools, community colleges, universities, and other institutions with education as a primary mission. Some housing developments in enterprise zones have become Academies to provide training to their constituents. Only organizations with non-profit status (501(c)3 in the U.S. or the equivalent in other countries) are eligible to become Academies.

Still have questions?

Check these Web pages for more information about the program:

- Program overview
- Frequently Asked Questions
- News about the program
- Networking Academy Curriculum

